

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 COPENH 03273 071721Z

65

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FEA-01 ACDA-05 AGR-05 AID-05 CEA-01

CEQ-01 CG-00 CIAE-00 CIEP-01 OFA-01 COME-00 DLOS-04

DODE-00 DOTE-00 EB-07 EPA-01 ERDA-05 FMC-01 TRSE-00

H-02 INR-07 INT-05 IO-10 JUSE-00 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

NSF-01 OES-03 OMB-01 PA-01 PM-04 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /117 W

----- 047971

R 071640Z NOV 75

FM AMEMBASSY COPENHAGEN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1751

INFO AMEMBASSY ANKARA

AMEMBASSY ATHENS

AMEMBASSY BONN

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY LISBON

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY PARIS

AMEMBASSY REYKJAVIK

AMEMBASSY ROME

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

USMISSION NATO

S E C R E T COPENHAGEN 3273

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR NO DA

SUBJECT: DANISH ATTITUDE ON SVALBARD

1. WHILE DISCUSSING OTHER MATTERS WITH MFA'S NATO DIRECTOR,
TORBEN FROST, POLCOUNS WAS ABLE TO EXPLORE GENERAL DANISH
SECRET

SECRET

PAGE 02 COPENH 03273 071721Z

ATTITUDES TOWARD SVALBARD. FROST, WHO SAID HE SHARED MFA

RESPONSIBILITY ON SVALBARD WITH THE MINISTRY'S LEGAL OFFICE, CONFIRMED OUR CONCLUSION THAT THE DANISH GOVERNMENT HAD ISSUED NO STATEMENTS ON SVALBARD OVER THE PAST TWO YEARS. IN FACT, FROST SAID THAT THE DANES HAVE NOT HAD TO DO HARD THINKING ON THE MATTER SINCE SVALBARD HAS NOT COME UP AS A PRACTICAL PROBLEM FOR THEM. CONSEQUENTLY, HE SAID THE MFA WAS NOT REALLY AS WELL INFORMED AS IT MIGHT BE IF THE SUBJECT WAS AN ACTIVE ONE.

2. FOR SECURITY REASONS THE DANES WOULD SUPPORT WHAT FROST UNDERSTANDS IS THE NORWEGIAN POSITION ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF: THAT IS, THAT THE NARROWER EXTENSION PROVIDED BY METROPOLITAN NORWAY'S CONTINENTAL SHELF SHOULD APPLY TO SVALBARD. THIS ARGUMENT, FROST SAID, WOULD MEAN THAT THE TREATY SIGNATORIES COULD CLAIM RIGHTS TO EXPLOIT THE LAND OF SVALBARD AND ITS TERRITORIAL WATERS BUT THAT THE ECONOMIC ZONE BEYOND THE TERRITORIAL WATERS WOULD REMAIN EXCLUSIVELY UNDER NORWEGIAN NATIONAL SOVEREIGNTY AND NOT BE SUBJECT TO CLAIMS BY TREATY SIGNATORIES.

3. THE COUNTER ARGUMENT TO THE NORWEGIAN POSITION MENTIONED BY FROST WAS BASED ON THE ASSERTION THAT SVALBARD'S CONTINENTAL SHELF SHOULD BE MEASURED NOT FROM METROPOLITAN NORWAY BUT FROM SVALBARD ITSELF. THE 200-MILE ECONOMIC ZONE IN THAT CASE WOULD IMPACT ON THE SIMILAR ZONE MEASURED FROM GREENLAND RESULTING IN THE DRAWING OF A MID-LINE BETWEEN THE TWO.

4. FROST ADDED THAT, CONCEIVABLY, DANISH SUPPORT FOR THE NORWEGIAN POSITION COULD BE ATTENUATED. HE POSTULATED THE "UNLIKELY EVENT" OF DANISH INTEREST IN SEARCHING FOR OIL IN THAT PART OF THE SVALBARD ECONOMIC ZONE WHICH WOULD BE CLAIMABLE TO TREATY SIGNATORIES ONLY IF THE MEASUREMENT OF THE DISTANCE WAS BASED ON THE CONTINENTAL SHELF OF SVALBARD ITSELF.

DEAN

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: SVALBARD, CONTINENTAL SHELF, TERRITORIAL WATERS, FOREIGN POLICY POSITION
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 NOV 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975COPENH03273
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D750388-0806
From: COPENHAGEN
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19751165/aaaacfrz.tel
Line Count: 97
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION EUR
Original Classification: SECRET
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: SECRET
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 APR 2003
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <29 APR 2003 by BoyleJA>; APPROVED <30 APR 2003 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
06 JUL 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: DANISH ATTITUDE ON SVALBARD
TAGS: PFOR, NO, DA
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006